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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

23 JUNE 2016

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Fresno—66 Million Trees Killed by Drought, Increasing Fire Risk

(U) The number of trees in the Sierra Nevada forests killed by drought, a bark beetle epidemic and warmer temperatures has dramatically increased since last year, raising fears they will fuel catastrophic wildfires and endanger people's lives, officials said yesterday. Since 2010, an estimated 66 million trees have died in a six-county region of the central and southern Sierra hardest hit by the epidemic, according to the US Forest Service. Gov. Jerry Brown in October declared an emergency, forming a task force charged with finding ways to remove the trees that threaten motorists and mountain communities.

SOURCE: 21 June 2016, [ABC News](#)

(U) Ventura—700 Barrels of Crude Oil Spilled in Pipeline Leak

(U) Approximately 700 barrels of crude oil has spilled in the Ventura area after a pipeline started leaking in the area of Hall Canyon today, prompting a hazmat response, authorities said. The oil had flowed approximately ½ mile but was able to be stopped before reaching the ocean, according to the Ventura County Fire Department, which is responding to the incident. A hazardous materials team is at the scene.

SOURCE: 23 June 2016, [KTLA 5](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia—US Completes 'Takedown' of Medicare Fraud, Say Officials

(U) Washington—US law enforcement officials have charged 301 suspects with trying to defraud Medicare and other federal insurance programs in 2016, marking the "largest takedown" involving health care fraud allegations, the Justice Department said yesterday. The national sweep resulted in charges against doctors, nurses, pharmacists and physical therapists accused of fraud that cost the government \$900 million. The sweep was the largest in the nine-year history of the Medicare Fraud Strike Force, a joint initiative between federal, state and local law enforcement.

SOURCE: 22 June 2016, [Reuters](#)

(U) Louisiana—Three Deputies Shot in Two Days, One Killed

(U) Monroe—Authorities say two sheriff's deputies in northeast Louisiana were shot and wounded while serving a felony warrant today, the day after a sheriff's deputy in Jefferson Parish was shot and killed by a 19-year-old suspect as the suspect was being searched. The two deputies shot this morning are being treated at a Monroe hospital. Their conditions are unknown.

SOURCE: 23 June 2016, [Associated Press](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Austria—Heroin Use at 20-Year High in US, UNODC Says

(U) Vienna—A heroin "epidemic" is gripping the United States, where cheap supply has helped push the

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number of users to a 20-year high, increasing drug-related deaths, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) said today. According to the UN's World Drug Report 2016, the number of heroin users in the United States reached around one million in 2014, almost three times as many as in 2003. Heroin-related deaths there have increased five-fold since 2000.

SOURCE: 23 June 2016, [Reuters](#)

(U) Cuba—Columbian Government and FARC Rebels Reach Agreement on Bilateral Ceasefire

(U) Havana—The Colombian government and FARC rebels say they have agreed to lay down arms as they approach the end of historic peace talks in Havana. The final deal will end five decades of armed conflict in which an estimated 220,000 people have been killed and almost seven million displaced. The details will be made public today.

SOURCE: 22 June 2016, [BBC](#)

(U) Germany—Cinema Complex ‘Attacked by Armed Assailant’

(U) Viernheim—An armed assailant attacked a cinema near Frankfurt today, leaving at least 25 people injured, a German official said. The masked attacker entered the cinema around 3 p.m. local time before being fatally shot by special forces, according to reports. It is unclear if any of the injured were shot or were hurt in other ways, such as exposure to tear gas. The attack took place in a major shopping center, which hosts 20,000 visitors daily, according to its website.

SOURCE: 23 June 2016, [CNN](#)

(U) Syria—US-Backed Forces Enter ISIL-Held Manbij

(U) Manbij—The US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) entered Manbij today and were advancing slowly to the center of the city, a stronghold for the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in northern Syria, an adviser to the predominantly Kurdish force and a monitoring group said. If Manbij, a key waypoint on an ISIL supply line between the Turkish border and Raqqa, is captured, it will be the biggest strategic defeat for ISIL in Syria since July 2015, when it lost the border town of Tal Abyad. The US has embedded 300 Special Forces troops with the SDF.

SOURCE: 23 June 2016, [ABC News](#)

(U) Turkey—Authorities Arrest Three for Plotting Attack on Gay March

(U) Istanbul—A Turkish news agency says Istanbul counterterrorism police have arrested three suspected Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) militants who allegedly prepared to attack a gay pride rally. Following an anonymous tip, police teams on 17 June conducted operations in Istanbul's Basaksehir and Pendik districts, where they arrested the trio and seized several weapons, including a suicide vest. Authorities couldn't immediately confirm the reports.

SOURCE: 22 June 2016, [Associated Press](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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